

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending.

Claims 1-3, 6-10, and 13-17 stand rejected.

Claims 4, 5, 11, and 12 stand objected to.

Claims 9 has been amended to correctly depend from claim 8.

Specification

Page 2 of the November 2, 2004 Office Action (the "Office Action") indicates that the abstract is objected to because the abstract is a copy of the first paragraph of the summary. However, the Applicants respectfully submit that the Abstract is in compliance with, at least, 37 CFR 1.72 and MPEP 608.01(b). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request this objection be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103

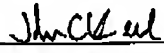
Appreciation is expressed for the indicated allowability of claims 4 – 5 and 11 - 12. However, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the allowability of claims 1-3, 6-10, and 13-17 for the reasons below.

Claims 1-3, 6-10, and 13-17 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent Publication 2004/0010487, Prahlad et al. ("Prahlad") in view of US Patent Publication 2002/0083037 Lewis et al ("Lewis"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Applicants respectfully submit that Prahlad is not prior art. The filing date of Prahlad is September 30, 2002, and the publication date of Prahlad is January 15, 2004. However, the filing date of Applicant's application is January 22, 2002. Thus, Prahlad is not prior art and a prima facie case of obviousness with respect to claims 1-3, 6-10, and 13-17 has not been established. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-17 are allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the numbers provided below.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450, on February 2, 2005.	
	<u>2/1/05</u>
Attorney for Applicants	Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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